



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
USS JOHN F. KENNEDY CV-67
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From: Commanding Officer, USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67)
To: Chief of Naval Operations (OP-05D2)

Subj: 1981 Command History

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12C

Encl: (1) Command Organization
(2) Chronology
(3) Narrative
(4) List of Photographs
(5) Photographs
(6) USS JOHN F. KENNEDY Officer Social Roster, December 1981

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1) through (6) are forwarded.

D. Bruce Cargill
D. BRUCE CARGILL

Copy to:
Director of Naval History (w/o encls (4), (5) and (6))

NAVAL AVIATION HISTORY

AUG. 09 1982

COMMAND ORGANIZATION - 1981

A. Commanding Officer:

USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67) was commanded by Captain D. Bruce Cargill, who relieved Captain Diego E. Hernandez on 29 August 1981.

B. Location of Homeport:

Homeport for USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67) is Naval Base, Naval Station, Norfolk, Virginia.

C. Composition of Command:

I. Commander Carrier Group TWO and Commander Carrier Group FOUR utilized USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67) as their flagship during 1981.

II. Carrier Air Wing ONE and Carrier Air Wing THREE were USS JOHN F. KENNEDY's assigned air wings. Carrier Air Wing ONE was commanded by Captain J. B. Best and Carrier Air Wing THREE was commanded by Captain B. J. Smith.

a. Air Wing ONE (JAN - MAR 1981):

<u>Squadron</u>	<u>Commanding Officer</u>
HS 11	Commander E. G. Moninger
VF 14	Commander J. H. Hawver, Jr.
VF 32	Commander D. L. McCrory
VS 22	Commander G. B. Rhodes
VA 34	Commander B. K. McDanel
VA 46	Commander M. M. Kemple
VA 72	Commander C. B. Refo
VAW 126	Commander G. M. Witzenburg
VAQ 138	Commander D. H. Krieger

b. Air Wing THREE (AUG - DEC 1981)

<u>Squadron</u>	<u>Commanding Officer</u>
HS 7	Commander D. A. Wright
VF 11	Commander D. A. Sharer
VF 31	Commander M. N. Matton
VA 37	Commander L. A. Farr
VA 75	Commander J. S. Mobley
VA 105	Commander D. V. Raebel
VS 22	Commander R. C. Asbell
VAW 126	Commander G. M. Witzenburg
VAQ 138	Commander D. H. Krieger

Enclosure (1)

CHRONOLOGY
1981 COMMAND HISTORY

JANUARY

- 01-02 Remained inport Naples, Italy for Christmas standdown and crew rest and relaxation.
- 02 Commander Destroyer Squadron TWENTY TWO, Commodore R. D. Frey embarked USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67).
- 03-11 Departed Naples, Italy and conducted Battle Group operations in the western and central Mediterranean.
- 12 Arrived Augusta Bay to host an Exercise National Week XXX brief with the Commanding Officers of other SIXTH Fleet participants. Departed the anchorage in the afternoon en route an area North of the Suez Canal for start of Exercise National Week XXX.
- 13-18 Exercise National Week XXX.
- 14-16 Vice Admiral J. D. Johnson, Jr., Commander Naval Surface Force, U. S. Atlantic Fleet conducted an official visit.
- 17-18 Major General Peck, USAF, and Major General Tulnay, Turkish Air Force (TUAF), and others of the Sixth Allied Tactical Air Force, conducted an official visit to observe National Week Flight Ops.
- 18-19 General Sedat Gungal, TUAF, and Major General Kaplan, USA, and others of Commander Allied Land Forces, Southeast Europe conducted an official visit to observe National Week XXX flight operations.
- 19-21 Arrived Souda Bay, Crete for debrief of Exercise National Week XXX.
- 22-26 Conducted a port visit at Athens, Greece.
- 26 Lt General Papageorgiou, Chief of Hellenic Air Force and members of his staff arrived for an official visit.
- 27-31 Departed from Athens, Greece for flight operations in the central Mediterranean.
- 29-01 Vice Admiral Ronald J. Hayes, Commander United States Naval (FEB) Forces, Europe and members of his Staff conducted an official visit.

Enclosure (2)

FEBRUARY

- 01-02 Mr. Gianfranco Simone, Military Editor of "Corriere Dell Serra," and Dr. Franc Oexle, Editor-in-Chief of "Suedkurier" conducted an official visit.
- 01 Completed operations in the Tyrrhenian Sea and departed en route a port visit to Naples, Italy.
- 02-07 Port visit Naples, Italy.
- 08-09 Four Danish journalists and escort conducted an official visit to review United States NATO Forces.
- 09-13 Departed Naples, Italy en route to a port visit in Valencia, Spain. Flight operations were conducted en route.
- 10-12 Conducted operations against the French Southern Coastal Defense Forces in Exercise "DASIX".
- 13-14 Seven Spanish parliamentarians and naval officers conducted an official visit.
- 14-18 Port visit Valencia, Spain. The ship was prepared for the Commander Naval Air Force, U. S. Atlantic Fleet Preventative Maintenance Systems and "3M" inspections as part of a ship's maintenance readiness pre-inspection.
- 15 Seven members of "The Diplomats," the popular Sixth Fleet band, held a concert for the crew.
- 16 The Lieutenant Governor of Valencia, Spain and others conducted an official visit.
- 19-25 Departed Valencia, Spain and conducted flight operations in the western Mediterranean.
- 20-24 Commander Cruiser-Destroyer Group TWO, Rear Admiral H. C. Mustin, conducted an official visit.
- 21-22 Participated in an amphibious exercise off Carbonaras, Spain.
- 21-24 Air Wing ONE conducted dissimilar air combat training (DACT) against USAF F-4's staging from air bases in Spain.
- 25 En route port visit/upkeep in Naples, Italy.
- 26-08 Port visit/upkeep period in Naples, Italy prior to departing
(MAR) the Mediterranean for Norfolk Naval Station.

27-28 Hosted a group of Italian print journalists for a tour of the ship.

MARCH

- 05 Six Turkish journalists and two escorts from the American Embassy, Ankara visited the ship.
- 09-13 En route Malaga, Spain to pick up "Tiger Cruise" participants.
- 14-17 Inport Malaga, Spain.
- 16 Rear Admiral C. A. Easterling, Commander Task Force SIX ZERO, made his parting calls as a formality of protocol.
- 18 Commander Carrier Group TWO/Commander Task Force SIX ZERO cross-decked from USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67) to USS FORRESTAL (CV 59).
- 18-28 "Tiger Cruise" from Malaga, Spain to Norfolk Naval Station.
- 20 Commanding Officer's Personnel Inspection held on the flight deck.
- 26 RADM J. D. Bulkeley, President Board of Inspection and Survey (INSURV) and inspectors arrived and commenced the INSURV inspection, concluding 31 March.
- 28-26 Vice Admiral G. E. R. Kinnear, and Virginia Lieutenant Governor, (APR) Charles Robb, and others arrived onboard to welcome KENNEDY home from the deployment. The ship moored on the north side, pier 7, Norfolk Naval Station.

APRIL

- 07-08 Offloaded ammunition to USS NIMITZ (CVN 68), USS AMERICA (CV 66) and USS KALAMAZOO (AOR 6).
- 16 Bishop Crumley, President of the Lutheran Church in America conducted an official visit.
- 17 Additional weapons offloaded to USS NIMITZ (CVN 68).
- 26-28 Anchored at Whiskey Anchorage to offload the remainder of the ship's ammunition load prior to transiting the Elizabeth River to Norfolk Naval Shipyard, Portsmouth, VA.
- 29 Moored north side, pier 7, Norfolk Naval Station.
- 30 One hundred guests of the Commanding Officer transited the Elizabeth River onboard KENNEDY en route berth 4, pier 5, Norfolk

Naval Shipyard, Portsmouth, VA.

30-03 Norfolk Naval Shipyard for ship's restricted availability (SRA).
(AUG)

MAY

22 Miss America and other Virginia and local area beauty contestants were hosted during an official visit.

JUNE

06 Family Day Picnic held for the crew and families of the ship and Norfolk Navy Shipyard employees involved in the rework effort.

14 The ship's Chaplain and his assistant were guests on the local television program, "Religion In The News", aired live over local network television.

29 Notified of winning of the "Golden Mike" award for 1980.

JULY

23 The Secretary of the Navy, John F. Lehman, Jr., USNR, announced USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67) was the winner of the Environmental Protection Award for 1980.

AUGUST

02 Completed the ship's restricted availability (SRA) period at Norfolk Naval Shipyard, on time and on schedule.

03-07 Underway from Norfolk Naval Shipyard for four days of Post Repair Trials.

05 Congressman Baltasar Corrada and his sons conducted a visit as special guests of the Commanding Officer.

07-24 Moored on the north side, pier 12, Norfolk Naval Station.

08-20 Hosted crew members of the British Ship HMS INVINCIBLE, conducting a port visit in Norfolk.

13 Members of the Armed Forces Staff College were hosted to an orientation tour.

15 Hosted approximately 500 members of the Armed Forces Staff College, Class 70 and dependents to an orientation tour.

24-28 Underway for flight operations in the VACAPE and Jacksonville

operating areas. En route Mayport, Florida for Air Wing Dependents' Day Cruise.

- 24 Mr. Raoul Chavez, from the National Headquarters of the Boy Scouts of America; Mr. James Rodriguez and his brother Mr. (b) (6) Rodriguez, from the Tidewater Council of the Boy Scouts of America; and Ms. Grace Moran and Mr. Bob Bradley, from WTKR Television of Norfolk, were treated to an orientation tour of the ship and flown off that afternoon.

Commodore Aron Sharaf Barakati, Commander, Royal Saudi Naval Force, and aides made an official visit accompanied by Vice Admiral Thomas J. Kilcline, Commander, Naval Air Force, U. S. Atlantic Fleet.

- 28-29 Arrived Mayport, Florida for the Carrier Air Wing THREE Dependents' Day Cruise on 29 August.
- 29 Captain D. Bruce Cargill, USN assumed command of USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67) in ceremonies at sea. Captain Diego E. Hernandez, USN, departed the ship en route his new position as chief of Staff, Commander Naval Air Force, U. S. Atlantic Fleet.
- 29-01 Underway en route Guantanamo (GITMO) operating area for REFTRA.
(SEP)

SEPTEMBER

- 01-14 Conducted Refresher Training (REFTRA) operations in the Guantanamo (GITMO) operating area.
- 11-13 Onload of ammunition while en route to Norfolk, Virginia. Approximately 1200 lifts of explosives and inert materials were transferred from the USS SANTA BARBARA to KENNEDY via connected replenishment (CONREP) and vertical replenishment (VERTREP).
- 14-05 Inport Norfolk, Virginia for upkeep.
(OCT)
- 16 General Jeannou Lacaze, Chief of Staff, French Armed Forces (CJCS equivalent) and distinguished visitors conducted an official visit.
- 16-18 50 Staff and student members of the Navy Supply Center School Athens, Georgia conducted an orientation visit.
- 20 Hosted 60 members of the Blair County, Pennsylvania Law Enforcement Association for an official visit.

- 23 Dr. Sharon Lord, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Equal Opportunity and Safety), Flag, General officers and other distinguished visitors conducted an official visit.
- 29 Staff of Commander Carrier Group FOUR embarked.

OCTOBER

- 01 Dependents' Day Cruise at Pier 12 for dependents and guests of USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67) and Carrier Air Wing THREE squadrons homeported in the Norfolk area.
- 05 Fifteen Naval Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (NJROTC) cadets from Tabb High School, York County, Virginia embarked for observation of Fleet Carrier Qualifications.
- 06 Commander Carrier Group FOUR, Rear Admiral Robert B. Fuller broke his flag in USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67).
- 06-11 Fleet Carrier Qualifications in the VACAPE operating area.
- 10-19 Underway in the VACAPE Operating area for Type Training (TYT) I.
- 13 Sponsored CBS News correspondent Ms. Liz Trotta and a three man film crew onboard to film Commander Don Sharer, prospective Commanding Officer, Fighter Squadron ELEVEN and previous Iranian hostage.
- 19-25 Moored North side, pier 12, Norfolk Naval Station for upkeep.
- 24 Hosted an orientation visit for 60 members of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics.
- 26-29 Conducted the Operations Propulsion Plant Examination, phase I (anchorage), at Whiskey anchorage, Norfolk Naval Station. Phase II (underway) was conducted en route the Puerto Rican Operating area.
- 26-31 Underway en route Puerto Rican Operating area for Type Training (TYT) II, III, Operational Readiness Evaluation (ORE) and READEX 1-82.
- 31 Memorial services held onboard for three members of Tactical Electronic Warfare Squadron ONE THREE EIGHT killed in an aircraft accident near NAS Oceana on 29 October 1981.

NOVEMBER

- 01-07 Conducted Type Training (TYT) II in the Puerto Rican Operating area.

- 04-05 Completed the Nuclear Weapons Acceptance Inspection.
- 08-11 Inport Saint Thomas, Virgin Islands for port visit.
- 12-14 Completed Type Training II as KENNEDY/Air Wing team increased integration and coordination of operations.
- 15-22 Conducted intensive training evolutions in the Mobile Sea Range as part of READEX 1-82 operations.
- 15 KENNEDY Participated in HARPOONEX with other surface, subsurface and airborne assets from the Battle Group. The HARPOONEX an ASWEX an ARMEX and a SINKEX were targeted against the Ex-USS WARE.
- 19-20 USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67) and USS EISENHOWER (CVN 69) conducted dual Carrier Battle Group operations in the Mobile Sea Range defending against a numerically superior exercise adversary.
- 20-22 KENNEDY provided range support for missile firings in the Mobile Sea Range.
- 22-01 Completed Type Training (TYT) III on the Puerto Rican operating area.
(DEC)

DECEMBER

- 01-04 Underway in northern Puerto Rican operating area for the Operational Readiness Examination.
- 05-06 Anchored north of Vieques Island, for rearming from USS BUTTE.
- 06-09 The Propulsion Examination Board (PEB) completed the KENNEDY Operational Propulsion Plant Examination (OPPE).
- 11 Arrived Norfolk Naval Station, for preparations for the overseas movement and the Christmas Holidays prior to the deployment commencing 4 January 1982.
- 12-04 Inport Norfolk.

NARRATIVE
1981 COMMAND HISTORY

As the new year began, USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67) was completing a Christmas port call in Naples, Italy. In this two week period many KENNEDY sailors were given the opportunity to take leave and visit with "Loved Ones" at home or with those that had come to Naples for the Christmas season. On 2 January, Commodore R. D. Frey, Commander Destroyer Squadron TWENTY TWO broke his flag in the ship. Also on this day, Captain Mastin M. Robertson, USMC, Commanding Officer of the Marine Detachment, USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67), was relieved by Captain Curtis A. Munson, USMC. USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67) was ready to put to sea and eager to face the challenges that lay before it.

The ship departed Naples on 3 January en route to the Western and Central Mediterranean for extensive carrier qualification refresher operations and ASW alpha services culminating in the drop of six exercise torpedoes (3 VS/3 HS) in a torpedo exercise (TORPEX) on 4 January. The TORPEX provided excellent aircrew training on submarine tracking and attack procedures. The period between 5 and 11 January primarily exercised battle group units in coordinated operations. On 12 January, USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67) dropped anchor in Augusta Bay to host Commanding Officers of various SIXTH Fleet units for a Pre-National Week XXX brief. Upon completion of the brief, the ship weighed anchor and departed en route to operations north of the Suez Canal to commence Exercise National Week XXX.

During this exercise, an ORANGE air detachment was established from KENNEDY/Carrier Air Wing ONE assets at Naval Air Facility (NAF), Sigonella to provide air raids against the battle group (BG). Besides exercising battle group anti-air warfare (AAW) and airborne early warning (AEW) capabilities, major emphasis was placed on surface and subsurface search coordination (SSSC) procedures, electronic support measures (ESM), and follow on war-at-sea (WAS) strikes. Exercise National Week XXX was hampered by poor weather and rough seas limiting participation of ORANGE air assets and battle group operations, yet served to heighten battle group readiness against "real world" surface and subsurface targets, and was considered very successful.

On 14 January, Vice Admiral J. D. Johnson, Jr., Commander Naval Surface Force, U. S. Atlantic Fleet arrived for an official two day visit to various units of the SIXTH Fleet, staging from KENNEDY. During his stay, Vice Admiral Johnson made official visits to the USS JOHN RODGERS, USS W. S. SIMS, USS R. K. TURNER and USS LUCE prior to departing on 16 January. Also on 14 January, Commander (b) (6) relieved Commander (b) (6) as the ship's Weapons Officer.

A group of allied officers from the Sixth Allied Tactical Air Force (SIXATAF) made an official visit to the ship on 17 and 18 January. Major General Earl Peck, USAF, Deputy Commander Sixth Allied Tactical

Enclosure (3)

Air Force, escorted Major General Bulent Tulnay, Chief of Staff, Sixth Allied Tactical Air Force, Turkish Air Force (TUAF); Col Engin Azov, TUAF, Deputy Chief of Staff, Logistics and Admin; Col Glenn Young, USAF, Deputy Chief of Staff, Plans and Operations; Group Captain Jeffrey Tessel, RAF, Office of Logistic Plans; LTCOL Giorgio Grigoletto, ITAF, Office of Exercise Plans; and Captain William Pippin, USN, Commander Striking Force South Representative Izmir came to USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67) for an official visit and observation of Exercise National Week XXX.

Other distinguished visitors for observation of Exercise National Week XXX and flight operations arrived on 18 January and departed early 19 January. This group was composed of the Commander Allied Land Forces, Southeast Europe (COMLANDSOUTHEAST) General Sedat Gunal, TUA; the Deputy Commander, Major General Phillip Kaplan, USA; the Assistant Chief of Staff for Operations, Col Richard Nelson, USA; the Executive Officer, Col N. Osman Bilgicler, TUA; Col A. Ergun Goren, TUA, of Plans and Operations Branch; and LtCol Richard Luxton, UKA, of the Operations Plans office.

Upon completion of Exercise National Week XXX, USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67) anchored in Souda Bay for the exercise debrief on 19 and 20 January, then departed 21 January en route to a port visit in Athens, Greece (22 to 26 January). Several Greek Military dignitaries visited USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67) while in port. On 26 and 27 January, the Chief of the Hellenic Air Force, Lt General Demetrius Papageorgiou, made an official visit with members of his staff: Col M. Stepas, HAF; Col Panagiotis Dertsos, HAF; LtCol George Foussekis, HAF; Capt Thomas V. Solar, USN; Col Donald D. Reed, USAF; and Maj (b) (6) USAF.

After an eventful and pleasurable port visit, the ship departed Athens on 27 January en route to the central Mediterranean for flight operations in support of a combat readiness assessment exercise (CRAE) conducted 28 - 29 January, west of Crete. Concurrent with the combat readiness assessment exercise, USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67) and Air Wing ONE conducted an air-to-air missile exercise and a fighter gunnery exercise. These exercises served to test the ship's Weapons Department and Air Wing Ordnance Teams in the buildup, movement, loading and fusing/arming of a wide variety of conventional weapons. Combined, these exercises were the first realistic conventional ordnance evolution for the KENNEDY/Air Wing ONE team since ORE.

From 29 January - 1 February, Vice Admiral Ronald J. Hays, Commander in Chief, United States Naval Forces, Europe operated from KENNEDY as he visited various ships of the SIXTH Fleet in the Tyrrhenian Sea. Units visited included USS R. K. TURNER, USS NICHOLSON and USS JOHN HANCOCK. Official tours and briefs were held onboard "Big John". Vice Admiral Hays departed KENNEDY early on 1 February. On 31 January, the month culminated in another PARPRO support mission in the central

Mediterranean. This mission highlighted the importance of all phases of training that had been conducted up until this time. The ship provided air defense support to a national collection mission in the central Mediterranean, concurrently with surface and subsurface defense of the battle group.

There were only thirteen operating days in February; however, it was a remarkably good month for KENNEDY/Air Wing ONE training. Many warfare areas were tested during flight operations in the central and western Mediterranean, as the KENNEDY prepared to conclude a Mediterranean deployment. While conducting operations in the Tyrrhenian Sea on 1 and 2 February, Mr. Gianfranco Simone, Military Editor of "Corriere Dell Serra," the leading Italian daily newspaper and Dr. Franc Oexle, Editor-in-Chief of "Suedkurier," a West German weekly newspaper, made an official visit to the ship for extensive tours, briefs and observation of both day and night flight operations. USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67) made a port visit to Naples, Italy on 2 and 3 February.

Captain Diego E. Hernandez, Commanding Officer, USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67) was guest speaker on 2 February in the Hangar Bay for retirement ceremonies in honor of Commander (b) (6). Also on this day, Commander (b) (6) USN, relieved Commander (b) (6) as the ship's Aviation Intermediate Maintenance Division (AIMD) Officer.

On 8 February, four Danish journalists and escorts made an official visit to USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67) as part of their review of NATO forces. The guests were: Mr. John Sundstrom, Foreign News Desk, Danish Television; Mr. Ole Russell, Foreign News Editor, "Politicker"; Mr. Paul Bjerrum, Foreign Policy and Defense Writer, Ritzaus Bureau (wire service); and Mr. Christian Brondum, journalist for "Berlinske Tidende," a Copenhagen daily newspaper. The ship departed Naples, Italy on 9 February en route to a 14 to 18 February port visit in Valencia, Spain. Flight operations were conducted in the western Mediterranean en route. The KENNEDY/Air Wing ONE team joined the French Southern Coastal Defense Forces from 10 to 12 February for joint United States Navy/French Air Force "DASIX" exercises. "DASIX" involved KENNEDY and Air Wing ONE in strike and air defense warfare specialities and was a most realistic training evolution. On 13 and 14 February, seven influential Spanish Parliamentarians and Naval Officers made an official visit to tour the ship and observe flight operations. The seven visitors were: Mr. Gregorio Pelaey, member Congress of Deputies; Mr. Enrique (Mugica) Heryog, member Congress of Deputies and Vice President, Congressional Defense Committee; Mr. Jose Luis (Blanco) Briones, Sub-Director General for U.S. Affairs in Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Vice Admiral Thomas (Clavijo) Navarro, Co-President of Joint Committee for Political and Military Affairs; Rear Admiral Angel Luis (Diaz Del Rio), Chief Tactical Division, Spanish Chief of Naval Operations Staff; Mr. (b) (6) United States Embassy Political/Military Counselor; and the United States Naval Attache, Madrid, Capt W. Norman Elder, USN.

During the period 14 to 18 February, the ship was reviewed by Commander Naval Air Force, U. S. Atlantic Fleet inspectors who came for a formal Preventative Maintenance System (PMS) inspection and "3M" inspection as part of a maintenance readiness evaluation. The formal PMS review included several hundred PMS check walk through inspections, which reflected a realistic and effective preventative maintenance program established in KENNEDY. The inspectors commented, "The general attitude of the ship's force, as well as the embarked air wing, indicated that the crew of USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67) is proud of their ship and that each crew member is anxious to present his area of responsibility for inspection". The crew was treated to a break on 15 February when seven members of the United States SIXTH Fleet Band, "The Diplomats," performed various musical selections for all-hands on the Hangar Bay. The Civil Governor of Valencia, Spain and Captain General of the 3rd Military Region, Lieutenant General Jaime Milans Del Bosch, made an official visit to the ship on 16 February. Accompanying LtGen Jaime Milans Del Bosch were: Captain Emilio Nieto Riobo, Commander Valencia Navy Region; Sr. Jose Maria Fernandez Del Rio, Civil Governor of Valencia, Province; Major General Luis Caruana, Military Governor of Valencia Autonomous Region; Sr. Manuel Girona, President, Chamber of Deputies for Valencia; and Sr. Ricardo Perez Casado, Mayor of the City of Valencia. Following an enjoyable port visit, the ship departed Valencia, Spain for flight operations in the western Mediterranean from 19 to 25 February. During this time, Air Wing ONE conducted an Air Wing Bombing Derby on 19 February, and KENNEDY and Air Wing ONE were involved in an amphibious exercise and dissimilar air combat training exercise (DACT) from 20 to 24 February off the coast of Spain. During this same time frame, Commander Cruiser-Destroyer Group TWO, Rear Admiral H. C. Mustin, USN made an official visit, leaving his staff aboard USS WAINWRIGHT (CG 28).

An amphibious exercise (PHIBEX) was conducted 21 and 22 February off Carbonaras, Spain. Exercise events allowed fighter aircraft to conduct amphibious support and combat air patrol (CAP) missions under surface combatant control while attack crews gained valuable training and experience in low altitude, high threat close air support (CAS) tactics. The dissimilar air combat training (DACT) exercise, conducted from 21 to 24 February against USAF F-4's, provided the opportunity to exercise the Combat Information Center (CIC) and E-2 (HAWKEYE) control of anti-air warfare (AAW) operators, as well as exercising the fighters in the air-to-air role. United States Air Force aircraft also conducted multi-plane raids against the battle group, all of which were effectively countered with missiles, CAP aircraft and electronic countermeasures (ECM). Upon completion of the DACT exercise, KENNEDY set sail for the last port call/upkeep period of the deployment, inport Naples 26 February to 9 March.

On 27 February, the ship hosted a group of seven Italian print journalists on a NATO tour sponsored by the United States Embassy in Rome. The visit and NATO tour were designed to provide the most well

versed and influential Italian print journalists with a more extensive background in NATO affairs and operations as they related to European concerns and security. Members of the group were: Mr. Kino Caterini, escort from the United States Embassy; Sr. Vincenzo Lodato, Italian Interpreter; Sr. Vladimiro Odinzov, Foreign Affairs Editor for the leftist daily "La Repubblica"; Mr. Giancarlo Mazzini, Foreign News Editor for "L'Europeo," Italy's third ranking political weekly; Sr. Geuseppe Venosta, Foreign Affairs Editor for "Il Mondo," the influential weekly economic and political magazine; Sr. Alberto Pasolini Zanelli, Political Columnist and Editorialist for the conservative "Il Giornale," one of Italy's leading National dailies; Sr. Giuseppe del Colle, Editor in Chief of "Famiglia Cristiana," Italy's second largest selling weekly magazine; Sr. Carlo Di Risio, Political/Military Affairs Editor for conservative daily "Il Tempo," the second most widely read paper in Rome. All the visitors left with a greater appreciation for NATO affairs and operations relating to European security.

Briefings and a tour of USS JOHN F. KENNEDY for six Turkish journalists escorted by two representatives from the U.S. Embassy, Ankara were accomplished on 5 March while in port Naples, Italy. The visit included briefs on the NATO alliance and the importance of maritime support in the southern flank. Members of the visiting party were: Mr. Ahsan Cemal, Ankara Bureau Chief "Chumhuriyet" daily newspaper; Mr. Orhan Duru, Ankara Bureau "Milliyet" daily newspaper; Ms. Leyla Tavsanoglu, Foreign News Editor, RHA-Turkish News Agency; Mr. Seyfi Tashan, Editor/Publisher of "Foreign Policy" an Ankara quarterly publication; Mr. Ilhan Cevik, Editor/Publisher "Turkish Daily News," Ankara; Mr. (b) (6) escort from the U. S. Embassy, Ankara; and Mr. (b) (6) from the escort U. S. Embassy, Ankara.

Best wishes and smooth sailing prefaced the deployment termination message received by USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67) on 6 March from Admiral William J. Crowe, Jr., Commander in Chief, Allied Forces Southern Europe. In his remarks, Admiral Crowe stated, "Your presence here was testimony to allied determination. Your skills at sea have helped NATO forces preserve peace through strength and solidarity."

Approximately 130 male dependents and relatives arrived while in port Rota, Spain to commence the 1981 "Tiger Cruise" for the homeward passage. Several activities were scheduled for the period 14 to 28 March to include observation of day/night flight operations, underway replenishment, flight deck orientation classes, etc. Guests were berthed near their respective sponsors and received tours, lectures and opportunities to view sponsors work centers.

Departing calls to appropriate officials were conducted by Rear Admiral C. A. Easterling, Commander Task Force SIX ZERO/Commander Carrier Group TWO/Commander Battle Force SIXTH Fleet on 16 March in port Malaga, Spain. Calls were made to the following dignitaries: Captain de Vavio D. Joaquin Lopez-Cortijo Gonzales Aller, Port Captain, Malaga;

Colonel Julio Sancho Gonzalez, Chief of Air Sector; General de Division Manuel Puig Rioboo, Military Governor; Sr. D. Pedro Apaicio Sanchez, Mayor of the City of Malaga; Sr. D. Jose Estevez Mendez, Civil Governor of the Province of Malaga. A luncheon hosted by Rear Admiral Easterling aboard USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67) included the above officials and the following guests: Sr. R. D. Juan De Dios Jimenez Molina, President of the Provincial Audiencia; Dr. Juan Ramon Cuadrado Roura, Vice Rector of the University, Malaga; Mr. Frederick Purdy, Consul General, Sevilla; and Ms. (b) (6) Acting U. S. Consular Agent for Malaga Province.

At 0800, 18 March, Rear Admiral C. A. Easterling, Commander Task Force SIX ZERO/Commander Carrier Group TWO/Commander Battle Force SIXTH Fleet hauled down his flag in USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67) and broke his flag in USS FORRESTAL (CV 59).

The following day, the Commanding Officer held a Command Inspection to ensure the men of KENNEDY were ready to represent the ship and the Navy in honor of the ship's return to Norfolk. On 23 and 24 March, KENNEDY received accolades from COMSIXTHFLT and CINCUSNAVEUR. Both Commanders' laudable comments were reflected in a report from Capt Diego E. Hernandez, Commanding Officer, USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67) to Commander Carrier Group FOUR highlighting the 1980 - 1981 KENNEDY/Air Wing ONE Mediterranean cruise.

An underway material inspection commenced two days prior to arrival at Norfolk Naval Station. The Board of Inspection and Survey (INSURV) Inspection arrived on 26 March and completed the inspection 31 March. The underway material inspection was a major, shipwide material inspection of all installed equipment, systems and compartments to evaluate the ship's capability to perform its assigned missions. The inspection included an evaluation of the ship's performance with respect to PMS, damage control, sanitation, heat stress, hearing conservation, combustible stowage and safety. The inspection consisted of two phases: the underway phase conducted 26 to 28 March, and the inport phase 29 to 31 March. Results of the inspection were published prior to the Inspection Board's departure and discrepancies were corrected during SRA 81.

On 26 and 27 March Air Wing ONE aircraft returned to their home airfields, and on 28 March the Commanding Officer bid farewell to Carrier Air Wing ONE, the only air wing ever to have worked with the ship. Air Wing ONE was replaced with Carrier Air Wing THREE as KENNEDY's assigned air wing. Many fond memories will always remain of the best carrier/air wing team in history. Prior to the ship mooring to the north side of pier 12 on 28 March, Vice Admiral G. E. R. Kinnear and Virginia Lieutenant Governor Charles Robb, accompanied by Mrs. Jean Anne Lovell and two local Virginia Beach government representatives, flew out to KENNEDY to share in the splendid end of the 1980 - 1981 USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67) Mediterranean Deployment. The crew and men of USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67) and Carrier Air Wing ONE were reunited with the loved ones who had brought strength and comfort throughout the deployment to the men aboard this mighty war ship. We were home!

USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67) busily prepared during April for a ship's restricted availability (SRA) period at Norfolk Naval Shipyard from 30 April to 3 August. While supporting both national and NATO military operations during this deployment, the professional sense of cooperation and teamwork displayed in the face of adversity marked the ship as a leader in readiness to defend the national security. It is significant to note that USS JOHN F. KENNEDY's operational requirements were accomplished without the loss of a single life or aircraft. On 7 and 8 April, the Weapons Department was busy offloading part of the ship's ammunition load to USS NIMITZ (CV 68), USS AMERICA (CV 66) and USS KALAMAZOO (AOR 6). The ammunition was offloaded to pier 7 and trucked to the other units. Again, on 17 April, the ship offloaded weapons to USS NIMITZ. The remainder of KENNEDY's weapons were offloaded at WHISKEY anchorage from 26 to 29 April. Upon completion, USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67) was ready to make the trip down the Elizabeth River to Norfolk Naval Shipyard for the ship's restricted availability (SRA) period from 30 April until 3 August.

On 23 April 1981, Bishop Crumley, President of the largest Lutheran body in America, visited the KENNEDY Chaplain and crew. Bishop Crumley was in Norfolk during the week attending the Lutheran Church In America Conference. He received lunch and a tour of the ship guided by the ship's Chaplain, Captain Robert M. Weeks, USN.

On 30 April 81, business and civic leaders, guests of the Commanding Officer, arrived for the transit down the Elizabeth River to Norfolk Naval Shipyard. The ship arrived that afternoon and moored at berth 4, pier 5 to commence the ship's restricted availability (SRA) period, and remained there until 3 August.

The members and crew of USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67) hosted Miss America, Ms. Susan Powell, Miss Oklahoma 1981, her party and other Virginia and local beauty contestants on 22 May. The charm and beauty of the ladies were a welcomed reprieve from the paperwork and routine of SRA 81 operations. Members of the group included Miss America and: Ms. Betty Simpson, local Hostess to Miss America; Miss Virginia, Ms. Holly Hereme, Portsmouth VA; Ms. Delores Rodman, local Hostess to Miss Virginia; Mr. J. E. Johansen, Mayor of Portsmouth, VA and Admiral, United States Coast Guard, Retired; Mr. G. Robert House, Portsmouth City Manager; Ms. Shelia Pittman, Secretary to Mayor of Portsmouth, VA; Ms. Joyce Lafromboise, Secretary, Portsmouth City Manager. Guests from the Portsmouth Seawall Beauty Pageant were: Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Masters, President of the Miss Seawall Beauty Pageant; Ms. Barbara Smith, Pageant Coordinator; Ms. Kay Sykes, Assistant Pageant Coordinator; Ms. Frances Fields, Assistant Pageant Coordinator; the current Miss Seawall, 1980, Ms. Debie Daws; and the Miss Seawall contestants for 1981. The Miss Seawall contestants for 1981 were: Ms. Deanna Mayer, Ms. Vickie Verbyla, Ms. Chris Holly, Ms. Debbie McCaskill, Ms. Jennifer Tucker, Ms. Cheryl Dotson, Ms. Janice Davis, Ms. Sharon Chichester, Ms. Annette Eates, Ms. Nancy Whitfield, Ms. Debbie Robertson, Ms. Jill Barnes, Ms. Patrice White, Ms. Cathy Devor, and the members and the Hostess of the

Miss Seawall Beauty Pageant, Ms. Chille Maxon, Ms. Brenda Hoscheid, Ms. Edie Morgan, Ms. Sue Fielding, Ms. Millie Schoedler, Ms. Sallie Dellinger and Ms. Joanna Saunders. All the guests were invited to attend the ship's Family Day Picnic on 6 June.

The crew of USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67) and the men of Norfolk Navy Shipyard took a needed respite from the tedious work on the ship to invite their families and friends to a family day picnic at Scott's Center Field on 6 June. In all, about 8,025 persons attended the gala event, and all were treated to a great day in the sunshine and fun of Norfolk Navy Shipyard park. The only mishaps for the day were two sprained ankles and various colorful sunburns. There were events and rides for all ages, and ice cream was served by the Miss Seawall contestants.

The senior KENNEDY Chaplain, Captain Robert M. Weeks, USN and his assistant RPCS (b) (6), USN were deeply involved in the welfare and well being of the crew and local community. On 14 June, both were invited as guests of the local television show "Religion In The News," aired live over local network television. The main topic centered on the chaplain's role on a Navy carrier.

USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67) continued to live up to its reputation as the "Best In The Fleet", as the Commander Naval Air Force, U. S. Atlantic Fleet, Vice Admiral G. E. R. Kinnear, announced that KENNEDY had won the Golden Mike Award for 1980. KENNEDY was the winner for the Large Ship category for the Atlantic Fleet.

"The greatest initiative taken by a large naval ship toward operations in an environmentally acceptable manner - USS JOHN F. KENNEDY." These were the words of the Secretary of the Navy, John F. Lehman, Jr., USNR when he announced the winner of the Environmental Protection Award for 1980. The announcement was received on 23 July 1981. Rear Admiral Robert B. Fuller, USN, Commander Carrier Group FOUR and Vice Admiral T. J. Kilcline, USN, the new Commander Naval Air Force, U. S. Atlantic Fleet, both forwarded their congratulations to USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67), summing up what every man on the ship already knew: KENNEDY is the "Pacesetter."

The remainder of the month was spent completing the finishing touches of the ship's restricted availability (SRA) period. The crew provided that extra effort to ensure work would be complete and all necessary electronic systems were operating properly in preparation for the post repair trials (PRT) from 3 to 7 August.

August was an important month for the men of the "Big John", as the ship completed a highly successful ship's restricted availability (SRA) on 2 August and embarked on a long training cycle. All chocks were pulled and Norfolk Naval Shipyard turned USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67) out

on time and on schedule. The ship departed the shipyard early on 3 August, en route to post repair trials (PRT) designed to extensively test all shipboard systems in an operational environment. During the post repair trials (PRT), most of the bugs were identified and documented for further repair throughout the workups. Special guests of the Commanding Officer included Congressmen Baltasar Corrada of Puerto Rico and his three sons, who made a special visit to USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67) to observe flight operations on 5 August. With all tests completed and preparations made, KENNEDY returned to the north side of pier 12, Norfolk Naval Station for upkeep from 7 to 23 August.

Her Majesty's Ship (HMS) INVINCIBLE arrived inport Norfolk for an official visit from 8 to 20 August. The Commanding Officer and crew of USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67) hosted Captain H. H. Livesay, RN, Commanding Officer, HMS INVINCIBLE, and his Royal Navy officers and men during the port visit. Various tours, luncheons and social engagements were arranged and conducted each day of their visit. The HMS INVINCIBLE's escorts, RFA FORT AUSTIN and RFA TIDEPOOL, were hosted by other units of the Second Fleet. While inport during this period, KENNEDY found time to sponsor two groups of visitors from the Armed Forces Staff College (AFSC) Class of 70. The first group made an official visit on 13 August and consisted of 29 Staff members and students who were given a classified orientation brief on ship communications, Carrier Intelligence Center (CVIC) operations and Combat Information Center (CIC) operations. An informal orientation visit was presented to the second group from the Armed Forces Staff College on 15 August, consisting of approximately 500 staff members, students and dependents.

Final adjustments were completed and the ship departed Norfolk on 24 August for three weeks of Fleet Carrier Qualifications, limited air wing flight operations and ship/air wing refresher operations in the Jacksonville and Guantanamo operating areas, as well as the Carrier Air Wing THREE Dependents' Day Cruise on 29 August in Mayport, Florida. USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67) hosted members of the Boy Scouts of America local and national level administration to a tour of the ship and observation of flight operations on 24 August. Mr. Raoul Chavez from the National Headquarters of the Boy Scouts of America, Mr. James Rodriguez and his brother Mr. Joel Rodriguez from the Tidewater Council of the Boy Scouts of America, and Ms. Grace Moran and Mr. Rod Bradley, representing WTAR Television of Norfolk, Virginia, completed their tour and were flown off the ship that afternoon from the Virginia Capes operating area.

KENNEDY also hosted an official visit by the Commander Naval Air Force, U. S. Atlantic Fleet, Vice Admiral Thomas J. Kilcline, and Commodore Mohammed Awn Sharaf Al-Barakati, Commander, Royal Saudi Naval Forces and six aides on 24 August: Captain Mahmoud Zaki Abu-Saud, Director of Planning, Royal Saudi Naval Forces; Commander Fahad Abdullah Al-Saud, Director of Operations, Royal Saudi Naval Forces; Commander Fahad Abdul-Rahman Al-Omran, Intelligence Officer, Royal Saudi Naval Forces; Lieutenant Commander Mohammed A. Al-Sulaimani, Director of

Personnel, Royal Saudi Naval Forces; Commander Omar Al-Bassam, Assistant Armed Forces Attache (Navy), Royal Saudi Naval Forces; Lieutenant Mohammed A. Al-Akle, Aide to Commodore Sharaf, Royal Saudi Naval Forces; and Captain Thomas A. York, USN, Chief Naval Section, Military Training Mission Saudi Arabia.

A team from Naval Sea Systems Command came aboard from 24 to 28 August to conduct an evaluation of and test installation of SOX lighting (Sodium Oxide Vapor) installed in the hangar bay and on the flight deck. At the completion of four days of testing and evaluation, 75 percent of the crew which had previous experience working under red lighting preferred the higher level of lighting provided by the SOX lights.

29 August was a special day for the ship. Those members of Carrier Air Wing THREE homeported in the Jacksonville/Mayport, Florida areas were invited to bring their dependents onboard for a Dependents' Day Cruise. Approximately 500 guests were treated to a day at sea complete with air show and delightful navy chow. Following the Dependents' Day Cruise, all dependents were offloaded at Mayport, Florida and all ship's company, officers and airwing representatives made hasty preparations for the Change of Command Ceremony for the Commanding Officer, USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67).

Captain D. Bruce Cargill, USN relieved Captain Diego E. Hernandez, USN in ceremonies held in Hangar Bay One that evening following departure from Mayport, Florida. In his departing ceremony, Captain Hernandez stated, "The reputation of the ship rests with the crew - and this crew has given more than anyone could ever ask," remarking "This ship is good, it will get better, and it will continue to uphold tradition as the best carrier in the Atlantic Fleet. The purpose of the carrier is for the air wing to fly in defense of national interests and honor." Lastly, he regretted not having a longer opportunity to work with Air Wing THREE, but noted how impressed he was by what he had seen.

In assuming command of the KENNEDY, Captain D. Bruce Cargill, USN stated, "To command a U.S. Navy vessel is great. To command an aircraft carrier is a dream. But to command USS JOHN F. KENNEDY, the best ship in the U. S. Navy, also means it must be the best ship in the world." Captain Hernandez departed for his tour of duty as Chief of Staff, Commander Naval Air Force, U. S. Atlantic Fleet. "Super K" (new nickname) was en route to refresher training in the Guantanamo operating area.

For the first two weeks in September, the crew of KENNEDY focused their attention on an intensive refresher training (REFTRA) operating period. During REFTRA, all departments and divisions studied the ship from "stem to stern" in terms of damage control repair and training to maximize the ship's capabilities to care for itself in all emergency conditions. Additionally, all departments were involved in daily departmental training exercises with emphasis on divisional damage control awareness including handling and treatment of various serious

wounds. On 10 September, the ship completed refresher training (REFTRA) operations and the Fleet Training Group, Guantanamo, Cuba, CAT Training Team offloaded as USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67) set course for Norfolk Naval Station. During the three day transit to Norfolk, the ship conducted a major three day onload of conventional ammunition from USS SANTA BARBARA from 11 to 13 September. In all about 1200 lifts of explosives and inert material were transferred to the KENNEDY using both connected replenishment (CONREP) and vertical replenishment (VERTREP). After completion of the intensive at-sea period, the ship moored on the north side of pier 12, Norfolk Naval Station on 14 September.

Several distinguished visitors made official visits to USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67) during the 14 September to 6 October inport period. Included during this time was a Dependents Day Cruise for the men of the "Super K" and dependents and guests of those squadrons of Carrier Air Wing THREE homeported in the Norfolk area.

In the spirit of international cooperation, "Super K" hosted an official visit for General Jeannou Lacaze, Chief of Staff, French Armed Forces (CJCS equivalent), members of his staff and escort officers on 16 September. Accompanying General Lacaze were Major General Pierre Claude Lauzeral, French Defense Attache, Washington, DC; Brigadier General Christian Patte, United States Defense Attache, Paris, France; Colonel Claude Solanet, French Air Force, Flag Aide to General Lacaze; Commandant Serge Lenne, French Air Force, Aide de Camp to General Lacaze; and Lieutenant Commander (b) (6) USN, Commander in Chief, U. S. Atlantic Fleet translator. Concurrent with this visit another group of 50 students and staff members of the Naval Supply Center School, Athens, Georgia visited between 16 and 18 September. On 20 September KENNEDY hosted 60 members of the Blair County Pennsylvania Law Enforcement Association to an orientation visit and tour. The group included local area mayors, several judges, sheriffs, and chiefs of police and sponsors of the Law Enforcement Association from Blair County, Pennsylvania. On 29 September, the Staff of Commander Carrier Group FOUR transferred aboard USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67) in preparation for the type training/workups beginning in early October.

On the morning of 1 October, all the dependents and guests of USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67) were aboard for the scheduled "Dependents' Day Cruise"; unfortunately, a casualty to the boiler feedwater system prevented the ship from going to sea. The day was filled with tours of the ship's spaces and squadron aircraft. The Marine Detachment presented various displays, close order marching drills and a thrilling show of mountaineering techniques! CDR (b) (6) USN, (Ret) escorted fifteen Naval Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (NJROTC) cadets from Tabb High School, York County Virginia on a visit to the "Super K" from 5 to 11 October. These students were embarked for a brief observation of naval flight operations and indoctrination of a naval man-of-war. Continuous tours of all ship's spaces were scheduled until the cadets departed the ship on 11 October.

exercise stretched from an area east of Norfolk south to encompass the entire Caribbean Sea, under the tactical command of Rear Admiral Robert B. Fuller, Commander Carrier Group FOUR, embarked in USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67). The exercise incorporated Type Training (TYT) II, III and the Operational Readiness Evaluation (ORE) for KENNEDY, and was designed to improve fleet readiness in coordinated dual carrier battle group operations for the USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67) and USS EISENHOWER (CVN 69) while exercising U. S. Navy and Marine Corps personnel and weapons systems under realistic conditions. Additional realistic threats were posed by TU-95/Bear reconnaissance aircraft operating between the Soviet Union and Cuba.

The KENNEDY crew and men of Air Wing THREE took time out on 31 October to pay tribute to three aircrewmembers of Tactical Electronic Warfare Squadron ONE THIRTY EIGHT killed in a plane crash near Naval Air Station, Oceana on 29 October. Memorial services were held in the Forecastle for Lieutenant Commander Jack Allen Fisher, USN; Lieutenant Jim Howard Mallory, Jr., USN; and Lieutenant Alfred Joseph Dupont, USN.

Training during the month of November was very intensive as KENNEDY and Air Wing THREE intercepted TU-95/Bear reconnaissance aircraft, the READEX 1-82 exercise threats to the battle group, and planned attacks on selected exercise targets. The tempo of exercise training increased daily from the start of Type Training II, as the entire battle group was molded into a coordinated body.

Type Training (TYT) IIA commenced on 1 November and continued through various phases, including a four day port visit to Saint Thomas, U. S. Virgin Islands from 8 to 11 November. Type Training IIB, 12 to 14 November, tested the various departments of the ship and their ability to successfully support the embarked air wing. Highlights of Type Training II included air wing day and night strikes against Vieques Target Complex; combat air patrol (CAP) against multiple airborne raids; minefield evasion during a sortie from Saint Thomas harbor; acceptance inspections for USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67) and Carrier Air Wing THREE on 4 and 5 November; multiple air-to-air missile exercises in the north and south Puerto Rican operating ranges; air-to-air gunnery against a towed banner; multiple war-at-sea (WAS) strikes; advanced anti-ship cruise missile ASCM exercises; electronic warfare training; anti-submarine torpedo exercises (TORPEXs) by both helo and fixed wing aircraft; refueling/replenishment exercises; medical first aid training; communication exercises; and various safety and navigational exercises. Overall, the KENNEDY/CVW-3 team received a score of excellent for the training period and was ready to commence Type Training III, scheduled from 22 November to 1 December 1981.

On 14 November, the battle force moved into the Mobile Sea Range for coordinated missile exercises. The major exercises during this transi-

tional period between Type Training II and III included a coordinated HARPOONEX against the EX-USS WARE. In all several exercise HARPOONS were launched and direct hits were recorded. Additionally, missiles, naval gunfire support, and one exercise torpedo were fired at EX-USS WARE. The target remained afloat that night and was sunk the following morning.

On 17 November, USS EISENHOWER (CVN 69) departed port Barbados and commenced two days of adversary operations against USS JOHN F. KENNEDY through 18 November. Both carrier battle groups then joined forces in a move unprecedented in modern naval warfare. Without benefit of a coordination and workup period, units of the two carrier battle groups, the United Kingdom forces, and United States Air Force assets rendezvoused in a hostile electronic warfare environment and successfully encountered a complex, sophisticated and numerically superior exercise adversary. Several firsts were achieved during these operations: the first dual carrier battle group to operate in the Mobile Sea Range; 200,000 pounds of fuel were passed in the first Navy experience of inflight refueling from an Air Force KC-10 tanker; for over 20 hours the dual carrier battle force continuously defended a 180 degree threat sector, employing long range carrier based combat air patrol (CAP); and the largest joint Carrier Battle Force/United States Air Force integration of command and control (AWACS) aircraft. The combined force successfully defended against 133 raids during a 20 hour period. The concept of long range force defense for protracted periods of time had been proven and marked a major breakthrough in maritime air superiority. READEX 1-82 met its goal of increasing Atlantic Fleet readiness.

Type Training III, 22 November - 1 December, was an intensive training effort similar to Type Training II. Similar exercises were conducted, and the same target complex was used in Type Training III. As in TYT II, KENNEDY and Air Wing THREE used this valuable time to fine tune warfare specialty areas in preparation for the Operational Readiness Evaluation (ORE) scheduled from 1 - 4 December in the Puerto Rican operating area.

December began with the same fast paced, high tempo operations that marked the month of November. The Operational Readiness Evaluation (ORE) was conducted from 1 - 4 December, and again all departments and divisions were exercised to their limit. Significant ORE events included surface combat air patrol (SUCAP) attacks on exercise surface action groups (SAGS); anti-air warfare exercises (AAWEXs); close air support (CAS) missions in support of exercise amphibious and ground action forces; shipboard damage control drills directed at various warfare environments; exercise of the air wing's ability to launch and recover from KENNEDY in all weather conditions during various emission conditions (EMCON); and numerous exercise contingency planning evolutions in support of national objectives. The KENNEDY/Air Wing THREE team performed admirably and received an overall grade of high

